**Early Intervention - How Families Qualify:**

**Eligibility for early intervention is determined by staff certified as Early Intervention Specialists by the Department of Public Health. It is important to REFER ALL families where there is a concern so the EI team can complete an eligibility evaluation!**

**Categories of eligibility include:**

1. Established condition on DPH list of qualifying conditions (NAS is on the list) ◊
2. Established Delay using DPH approved tool Battelle Developmental Inventory II. Score in any one of 5 domains 77 or lower
3. 4 or more Child and Family Eligibility Factors (below) that may impact a child’s development
4. Informed Clinical Opinion of team (may be due to divergent sub domain scores on Battelle, or team qualitative concerns)

**Child and Family Eligibility Factors –** Four in any combination are needed to qualify and are evaluated by the EI team in collaboration with the family.

**Family**

1. Maternal age of less than 17 years at child’s birth or there is a maternal history of 3 or more births

before age 20

2. Maternal formal education of 10 years or less

3. Parental chronic illness or disability affecting care giving ability

4. Parent lacking social supports - applies if a parent is geographically or socially isolated and in need of emotional support and services.

5. Family lacking adequate food or clothing

6. Homelessness

7. Open or confirmed DCF protective service investigation (may include a child currently in foster care)

8. History of substance abuse or dependency in the home which may have had an adverse effect on the child’s development or on caregiving abilities

9. Domestic violence/emotional/physical or sexual abuse in the home which may have had an adverse effect on the child’s development or on caregiving abilities

**Infant and Toddler**

1. Birth weight is **fewer** than 1500 grams (less than 3.3 pounds) \* ◊

2. Gestational age is **fewer** than 32 weeks \* ◊

3. NICU admission is **more** than 5 days \* ◊

4. Total hospital stay **more** than 25 days in 6 months – excluding an initial birth admission to a NICU ◊

5. Diagnosis of Intrauterine Growth Restriction (IUGR) or Small for Gestational Age (SGA) is made at birth ◊

6. Weight for age, or weight for height (details to be evaluated through records) ◊

7. Most recent venous blood lead levels measures at 5 μg/dl (micrograms per deciliter) or more ◊

8. Child has chronic feeding difficulties (Note: Failure to Thrive **diagnosis** is an Established Condition)

9. Insecure attachment/interactional difficulties

10. Suspected central nervous system anomaly (could be due to substance exposure or other factors)

11. Multiple trauma or losses

\* Only for child less than 18 months at time of eligibility determination

◊ Medical record required to support use of diagnosis or information